Watersville M. E. Church Watersville Road

1921

There was a Methodist Church located in this vicinity at least by 1862. What happened to the old building is unknown, but it was replaced with the existing building in 1921. The use of terra cotta block is unusual, but otherwise the form of the Watersville Church is very much in keeping with traditional Carroll County designs.

Survey No. CARR-1106

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE __yes __no

Magi No.

1. Nam	e (indicate pro	eferred name)					
historic Water	sville M. E. Church						
and/or common	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·					
2. Loca	ation						
street & number	Watersville Road			not for publication			
city, town W	atersville	vicinity of	congressional district				
state Mary	land	county	county Carroll				
3. Clas	sification						
Category district public private both site object being considered X not applicable		Status occupied _X unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted _X no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation X other: Vacant			
4. Own	er of Prope	ty (give names ar	nd mailing addresses	of <u>all</u> owners)			
name unknow	wn						
street & number		telephone no.:					
city, town		state	e and zip code				
5. Loca	ation of Lega	al Description	on				
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. unk		liber				
street & number				folio			
city, town			state				
6. Repi	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surve	eys			
title							
date			federal state	county local			
epository for su	irvey records						
city, town	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	state					

7. Description

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Condition excellent	deteriorated	Check one X unaltered	Check one X original si			
excellent good fair	ruins unexposed	altered	moved	date of	move	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary: The Watersville Methodist Episcopal Church is located within what remains of the small town of Watersville, on the southern boundary of Carroll County in the southwest section of the County. It is a one-story, one-bay by four-bay terra cotta block structure set on a raised, rubble stone foundation that is banked into a hill on the south and west. The church faces south toward the Patapsco falls, and is next to the Watersville Road, on the east side. There is a marble date stone on the southeast corner of the east elevation that reads "M.E. Church 1921." The upper story is built of glazed terra cotta block with a surface that approximates vermiculation. The gable roof has a ridge that runs north-south, has diamond pattern shingles, and exposed rafter ends. The south elevation has center double doors of tongue-and-grooved, beaded-edge vertical boards. The west elevation has four pairs of casement windows with diamond-light leaded glass. The east elevation has the diamond-light casements in the southern three bays. The northern bay has a projecting shed-roofed wing of the same terra cotta block and rubble stone foundation.

The Watersville Methodist Episcopal Church is located within what remains of the small town of Watersville, on the southern boundary of Carroll County in the southwest section of the County. It is approximately 3 miles east of Mount Airy. It is a one-story, one-bay by four-bay terra cotta block structure set on a raised, rubble stone foundation that is banked into a hill on the south and west. The church faces south toward the Patapsco falls, and is next to the Watersville Road, on the east side. The rubble stone in the foundation for the most part looks local, but some of the stone appears to be Port Deposit granite, and may indicate reuse of and earlier foundation. There is a marble date stone on the southeast corner of the east elevation that reads "M.E. Church 1921." The upper story is built of glazed terra cotta block with a surface that approximates vermiculation. The gable roof has a ridge that runs north-south, has diamond pattern shingles, and exposed rafter ends.

The south elevation has center double doors of tongue-and-grooved, beaded-edge vertical boards. Above it is a lanceolate transom with four stiles and infill of the same beaded-edge boards. The center portion of this elevation projects forward from the plane of the facade about the thickness of one block, and this projection is squared off at the top. The gable end has wood rake boards. The exterior stairs fall off to the east, toward the road. The west elevation has four pairs of casement windows with diamond-light leaded glass. Below each window is a window well with paired casement windows in the foundation. The east elevation has the diamond-light casements in the southern three bays, with three large boarded up window openings in the foundation below. These

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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Description (continued)

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lower openings have concrete lintels and sills. The northern bay has a projecting shed-roofed wing of the same terra cotta block and rubble stone foundation. There is no opening on the east or south elevations of the upper story of the wing. The east elevation of the foundation of the wing has double doors with a concrete lintel and sill. Each door has one light above two panels. The north elevation has a boarded up opening in the center of the gable end and an interior terra cotta block chimney west of center. There is a pair of leaded casements east of center in the upper story, with a pair of glazed double doors below them, in the foundation. There is also a pair of glazed casement windows in the center of the cellar wall. Both foundation openings have concrete lintels and sills. The church is currently vacant and the interior was not accessible.

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Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary: There was a Methodist Church located in this vicinity at least by 1862. What happened to the old building is unknown, but it was replaced with the existing building in 1921. The use of terra cotta block is unusual, but otherwise the form of the Watersville Church is very much in keeping with traditional Carroll County designs.

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Architecture, Religion Resource Types: Church, Rural vernacular

Since the Watersville U. M. Church closed several years ago, there is virtually no information available on its history. There was a Methodist Church located in this vicinity at least by 1862, according to Martenet's Map of Carroll County. It was still there in 1877, and Scharf noted in 1883, in his History of Western Maryland, that "[t]he Methodist Episcopal and Baptist congregations have a place of worship." What happened to the old building is unknown, but it was replaced with the existing building in 1921. It would appear that the old foundation was reused, with some alteration.

The use of terra cotta block is unusual, but otherwise the form of the Watersville Church is very much in keeping with traditional Carroll County designs.

KS/lh:7-19-93:CARR1106.sig

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CARR-1106

1862 & 1877 maps Scharf, History of Western Maryland, p. 896

Acreage of nominated property	
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing	
C	
Verbal boundary description and justification	
List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state code county code	
state code county code	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner	
organization Carroll County Planner Department date July 22, 1993	
street & number 225 North Center Street telephone (410) 857-2145	
city or town Westminster state MD	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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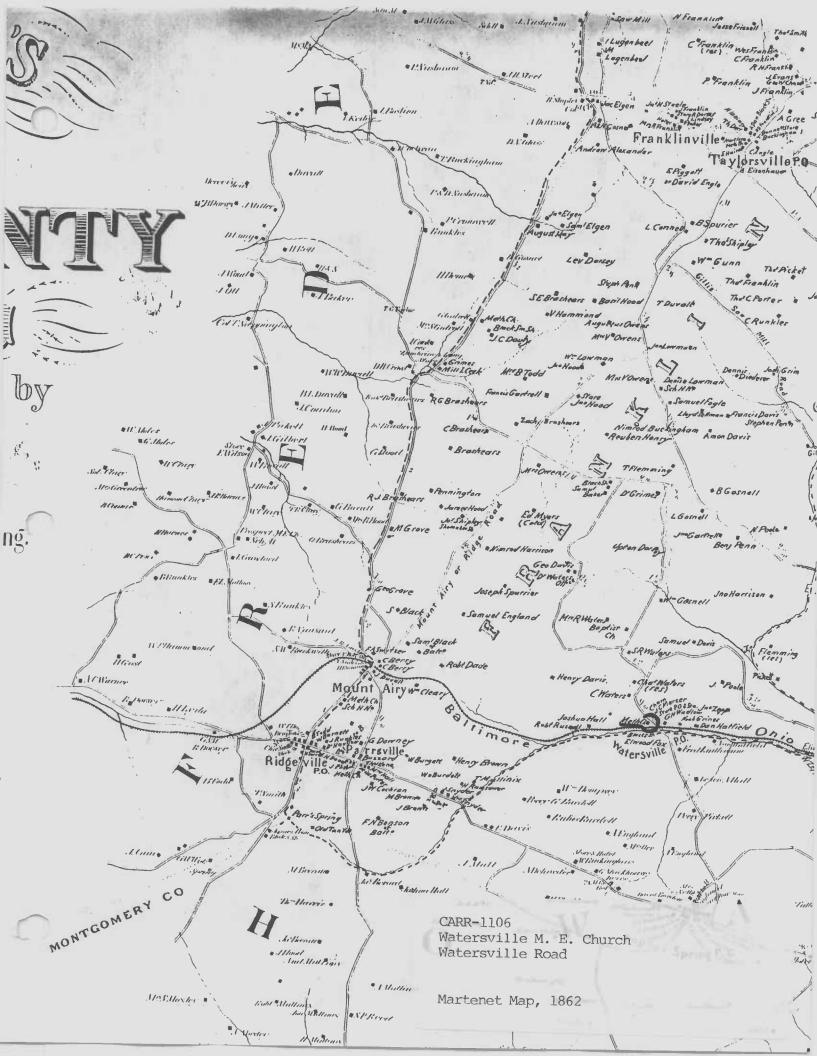
Maryland Historical Trust

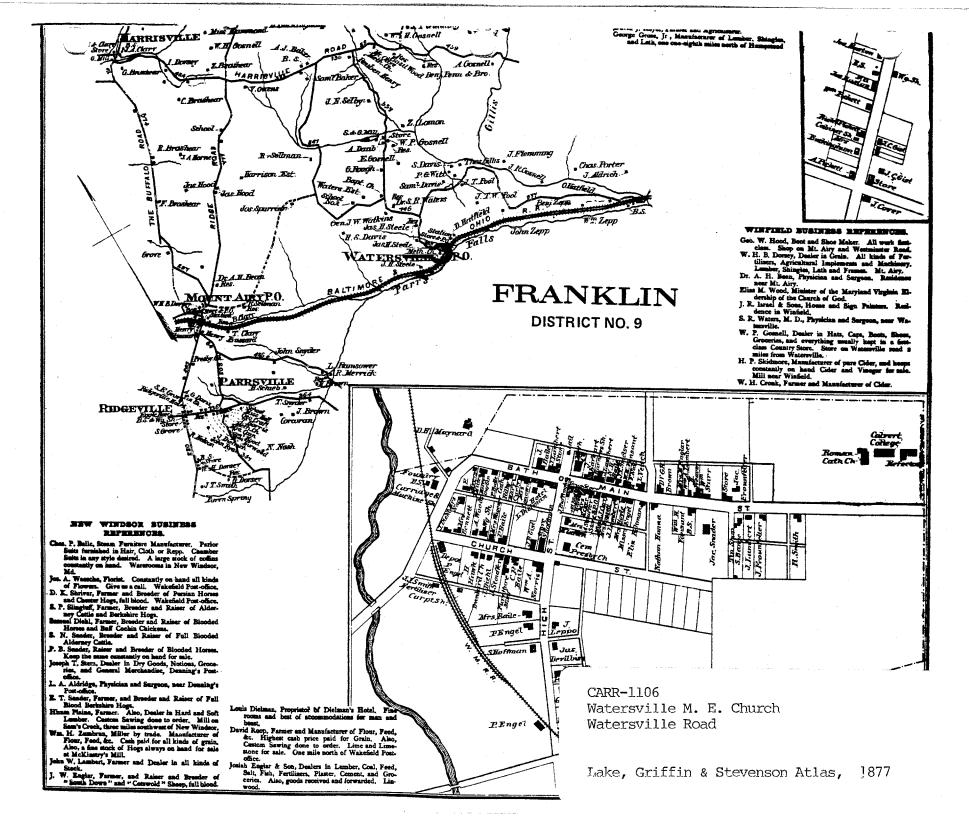
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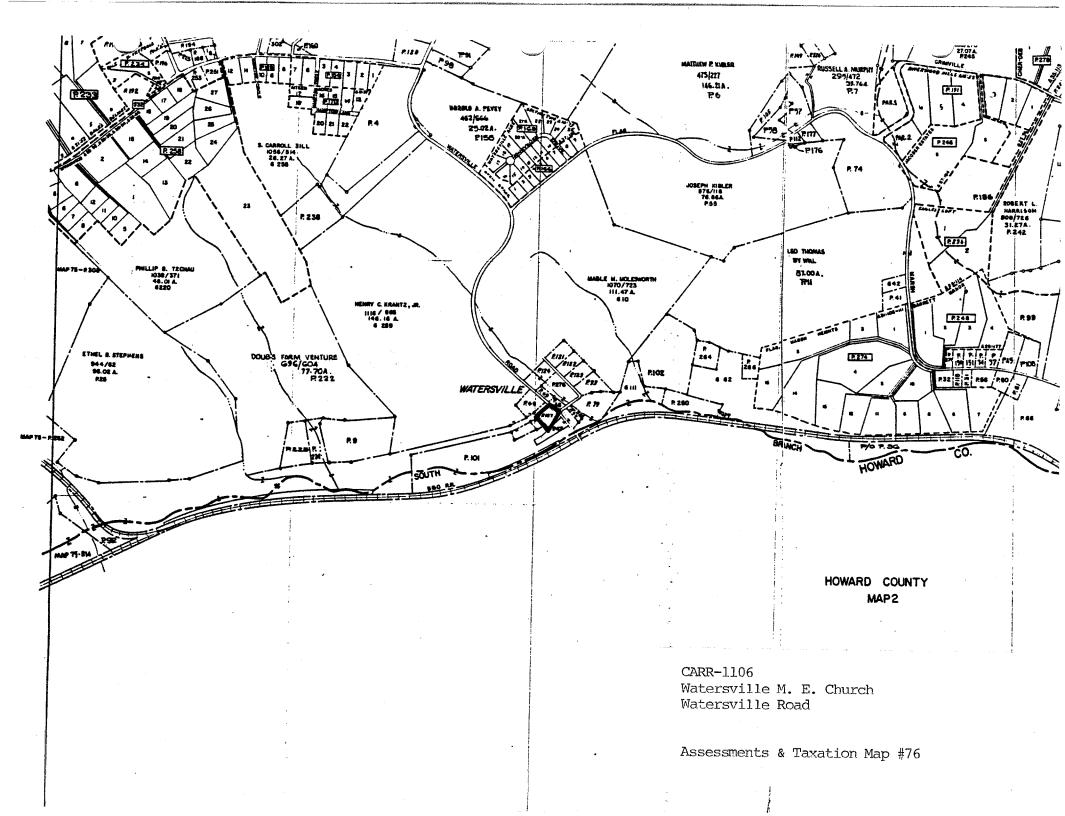
21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

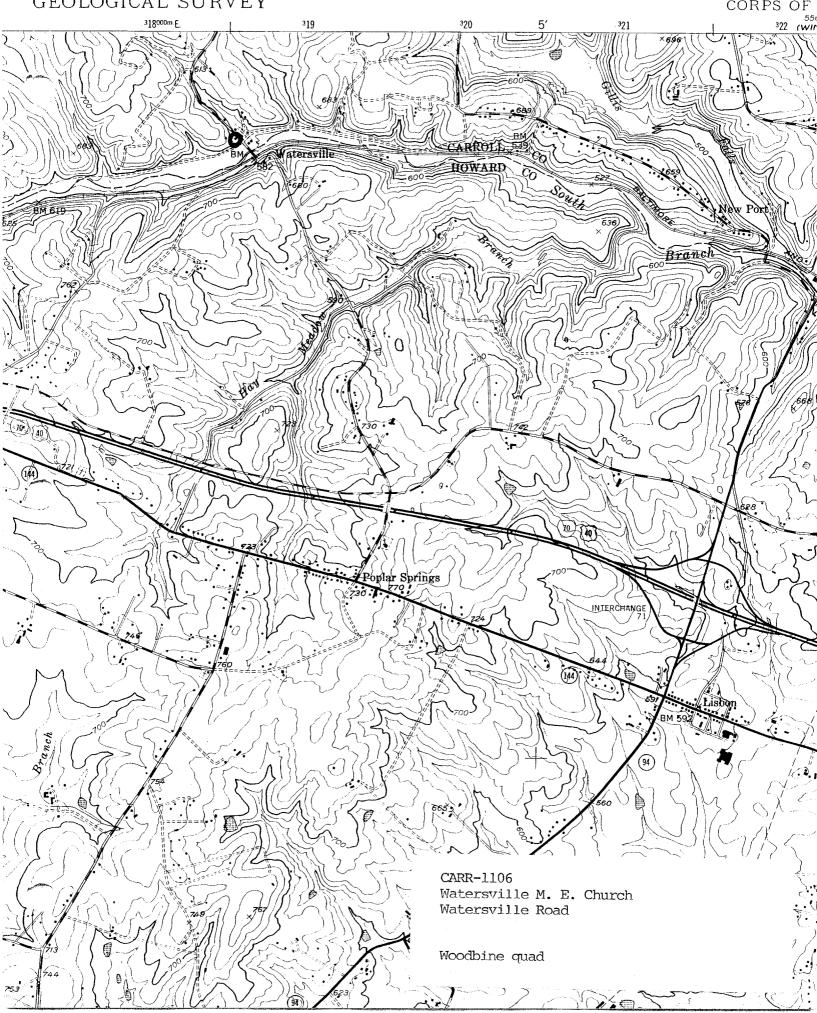






PARIMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DEPARTMENT CORPS OF





CARR-1106 Watersville M.E. Church Watersville Road Carroll County, Maryland Photo: Kenneth m. Short Date: February 1993 Neg. Loc.: Maryland Historica I Trust south; east elevations 1/1